

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: KUBO, et al.

Serial No.: 09/988,272

Filed: November 19, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2813

Date: July 1, 2003

Examiner: HOGANS, David L.

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 8401

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND A METHOD OF FABRICATING THE SAME

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Species Requirement dated **June 9, 2003**, the applicants provisionally elect to prosecute the species embodying Species I. Claims 12-15, 22 and 23 read on this species. The applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications on the non-elected claims.

The applicants respectfully request an early examination on the elected claims 2-15, 22 and 23 and favorable action on the merits. If the Examiner has any questions with this Response, please feel free to call the undersigned at the indicated telephone number.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time.

The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

In the event any additional fees are required in connection with this response, please charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, γ ESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE